

The English It Cleft

The English it-Cleft Cleft and Pseudo-Cleft Constructions in English Information Structure in a Cross-Linguistic Perspective New Perspectives on Irish English Cleft Constructions in Japanese Syntax Information Highlighting in Advanced Learner English Non-prototypical Clefts in French The Grammar of Focus English Mechanic and Mirror of Science and Art Languages and Cultures in Contrast and Comparison L3 Development After the Initial State The Role of Alternatives in Language English Mechanic and Mirror of Science Clefts and Their Relatives Focus Realization in Romance and Beyond Exhaustivity, Contrastivity, and the Semantics of Mandarin Cleft-related Structures "A" Dictionary of the English Language Corpus Triangulation Experimental Approaches to Pragmatics "A" Dictionary of the English Language Amanda Patten Peter Collins Bettina Migge M. Kizu Marcus Callies Lena Karssenbergs Georges Rebuschi Mar[?] a A. G[?] mez-Gonz[?] lez Megan M. Brown-Bousfield Sophie Repp Matthew Reeve Marco Garc[?] a Garc[?] a Ying Liu Robert Gordon Latham Sofia Malamatidou Valentina Cuccio R. G. Latham

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this book examines the structure and function of the english it cleft configuration from within the framework of construction grammar it defends a straightforward extraposition from np analysis on which the cleft clause is a restrictive relative modifying the initial it and claims that all types of it cleft involve nominal predication support for this analysis comes from three main areas a the central role of definiteness in the creation of specificational meaning b the existence and makeup of predicational and proverbial it clefts and c the early historical it cleft data in addition the book contains a sizeable diachronic component drawing data from the penn parsed corpora of historical english and from the international corpus of english great britain this investigation informs and advances what is an otherwise simple account of the english it cleft explaining how and why the configuration has developed an assortment of peculiar construction specific properties over time

first published in 1991 this book examines the communicative properties of cleft and pseudo cleft constructions in contemporary english the book argues that these properties cannot be ignored in any attempt to provide an adequate grammatical description of the constructions furthermore they provide a source of explanations for the patterns of stylistic variation displayed by clefts and pseudo clefts the book reports findings from a corpus based study of clefts and pseudo clefts in modern british english

the present volume draws together contributions from a number of scholars with an interest in empirical cross linguistic description most of the papers were first presented at the symposium information structure in a cross linguistic perspective held in oslo in november december 2000 the descriptions are functionally oriented and their common focus is how information structure in a broad sense can be compared across languages information structure has been approached in a variety of ways by the authors so as to give a broad picture of this fundamental principle of text production involving the way in which a speaker writer chooses to present a message in terms of given new information focus cohesion and point of view central to much of the research is the problem of establishing criteria for isolating linguistic constraints on language use from cultural linguistic conventions in text production the linguistic comparison includes english german and one of the scandinavian languages with sidelights to other languages most of the papers are text or corpus based and the ongoing work on parallel corpora in scandinavia is reflected in

several contributions

this volume brings together current research by international scholars on the varieties of english spoken in ireland the papers apply contemporary theoretical and methodological approaches and frameworks to a range of topics a number of papers explore the distribution of linguistic features in irish english including the evolution of linguistic structures in irish english and linguistic change in progress employing broadly quantitative sociolinguistic approaches pragmatic features of irish english are explored through corpus linguistics based analysis the construction of linguistic corpora using written and recorded material form the focus of other papers extending and analyzing the growing range of corpus material available to researchers of varieties of english including diaspora varieties issues of language and identity in contemporary ireland are explored in several contributions using both qualitative and quantitative methods the volume will be of interest to linguists generally and to scholars with an interest in varieties of english

cleft constructions occur across languages and are much analyzed in relation to syntax semantics and pragmatics mika kizu working in a principles and parameters framework with some consideration of the minimalist program provides the first coherent account of cleft constructions in japanese she claims that the construction is analyzed on a par with topic constructions and some types of relative clause one of the most interesting properties the syntactic phenomenon of connectivity is closely examined

this book presents the first detailed and comprehensive study of information highlighting in advanced learner language echoing the increasing interest in questions of near native competence in sla research and contributing to the description of advanced interlanguages it examines the production and comprehension of specific means of information highlighting in english by native speakers and german learners of english as a foreign language presenting triangulated experimental and learner corpus data as corroborating evidence the study focuses on learners use of discourse pragmatically motivated variations of the basic word order such as inversion preposing and it and wh clefts an underexplored field in sla research to date the book also provides a critical re assessment of the study of pragmatics within sla it has largely been neglected to date that l2 pragmatic knowledge includes more than the sociopragmatic and pragmalinguistic abilities for understanding and performing speech acts thus the book argues for an extension of the scope of inquiry in interlanguage pragmatics beyond the cross cultural investigation of speech acts it also discusses pedagogical implications for foreign language teaching and will be of interest to applied linguists and sla researchers language teachers and curriculum designers

this monograph is the first large scale corpus analysis of french il y a clefts while most research on clefts focusses on the english prototypical it cleft and its equivalents across languages this study examines the lesser known il y a clefts of both presentational eventive and specificational type and provides an in depth analysis of their syntactic semantic and discourse functional properties in addition to an extensive literature review and a comparison with italian c'è clefts and with french c'est clefts the strength of the study lies in the critical approach it develops to the common definition of clefts several commonly used criteria for clefts are applied to the corpus data revealing that these criteria often lead to ambiguous results the reasons for this ambiguity are explored thus leading to a better understanding of what constitutes a cleft in this sense the analysis will be of interest to specialists of romance and non romance clefts alike

the grammar of focus has been studied in generative grammar from its inception it has been the subject of intense detailed cross linguistic investigation for over 20 years particularly within the principles and parameters framework it is appropriate at this point therefore to take stock appraisal at this particular point is all the more legitimate because it comes at a time of general evaluation of the results of the profound activity that has characterized the principles and parameters framework this general assessment has produced a radical new direction within that framework the volume starts off with an introductory chapter that aims to provide an outline for the assessment to be followed by an overview of the evolution of the study of focus in generative grammar and a recapitulation of the principal issues associated with focus these issues are taken up in the remaining chapters of the book where various grammatical means of marking focus as well as grammaticalization of focus marking are analyzed in a wide variety of languages

this volume explores various hitherto under researched relationships between languages and their discourse cultural settings the first

two sections analyze the complex interplay between lexico grammatical organization and communicative contexts part i focuses on structural options in syntax deepening the analysis of information packaging strategies part ii turns to lexical studies covering such matters as human perception and emotion the psychological understanding of home and abroad the development of children s emotional life and the relation between lexical choice and sexual orientation the final chapters consider how new techniques of contrastive linguistics and pragmatics are contributing to the primary field of application for contrastive analysis language teaching and learning the book will be of special interest to scholars and students of linguistics discourse analysis and cultural studies and to those entrusted with teaching european languages and cultures the major languages covered are akan dutch english finnish french german italian norwegian spanish and swedish

to date the field of l3 acquisition research has had a heavy focus on the initial state of the l3 grammar while this initial state research is critical to understanding l3 acquisition as a whole in order for an explanatory understanding of language acquisition in the multilingual mind the field needs to expand its scope beyond this area of focus this volume brings together l3 acquisition and multilingualism researchers in order to discuss the state of the field and introduce new ideas related to the development of post initial l3 knowledge and the relationship among languages in the multilingual mind it includes contributions related to syntactic phonological and lexical development beyond the l3 initial state the purpose of this volume is to expand the current academic discussions within this field by emphasizing the role of the developmental process in an l3 context with the hope of inspiring further research in this domain

cleft constructions have long presented an analytical challenge for syntactic theory this monograph argues that clefts and related constructions cannot be analysed in a straightforwardly compositional manner instead it proposes that the locality conditions on modification for example by a restrictive relative clause must be reformulated such that they account for the apparent compositionality of dp internal modification whilst also permitting discontinuous modification of the type which is independently needed for constructions such as relative clause extraposition the empirical focus of the book is on clefts in english and russian which have a similar interpretation but considerably divergent syntactic structures the author argues that despite these syntactic differences both types of cleft are mapped to their semantic interpretations in the same manner this monograph will be essential reading for those working on cleft constructions and copular sentences more generally and will be of interest to those working on the syntax semantics interface

what are the linguistic means for expressing different types of foci such as narrow information focus and contrastive focus in romance languages and why are there such differing views on such a presumably clear cut research subject bringing together original expert work from a variety of linguistic disciplines and perspectives such as language acquisition and language contact this volume provides a state of the art discussion on central issues of focus realization these include the interaction between prosody syntax and pragmatics the typology of word order and intonation languages the differentiation between focus and related notions such as contrast and presupposed modality and the role of synchronic variation and change the studies presented in this volume cover a broad range of romance languages including french italian portuguese and different varieties of spanish moreover the book also offers new insights into non romance languages such as english german and quechua

exhaustivity contrastivity and the semantics of mandarin cleft related structures investigates the semantics of the cleft and cleft related structures in mandarin which over several decades have presented analytical challenges for semantic theory the goal of this book in broad terms is three fold i to figure out what clefting adds to the semantics of a sentence ii to set apart the meaning and the discourse function of each type of cleft related structure and iii to provide a uniform analysis of mandarin clefts and their related structures more specifically it addresses the following questions i what is the semantics of mandarin clefts ii what do exhaustivity and contrastivity contribute to the meaning of clefts iii what are the semantic or pragmatic factors that determine the variation of clefts related structures and canonical sentences and iv cross linguistically speaking how do mandarin shi de cleft and its related structures differ from similar constructions such as english it cleft french c est cleft and german es cleft this book will be informative for linguists who are working on cleft constructions and focus on sensitive structures cross linguistically and those interested in experimental semantics and pragmatics

despite the recognition that corpus based translation research would benefit from the triangulation of corpora little has been done

in the direction of actually employing combined corpus data and methods in the field this book aims to address this gap by providing a much needed detailed account of corpus triangulation where different corpora e.g. parallel comparable synchronic diachronic and or different methods of analysis e.g. qualitative quantitative can be used to increase our understanding of the phenomena where translation plays a key role the book also demonstrates clearly how the proposed methodology can be fruitfully employed to investigate different linguistic features through its systematic application to empirical data the first part of the book introduces the innovative framework for corpus triangulation which is based on a new and comprehensive corpus typology while the second part applies the methodological framework to two case studies examining the language of translation and the relationship between translation and language change the book advances current translation studies in terms of methodology innovation and offers a model on which future studies investigating the network of relationships surrounding translated texts can be based

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